

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 and 7-16 are pending in the present application. Claim 6 was previously canceled and claim 16 is added herein. Claims 1, 3-5, 7-11, 14 and 15 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the following remarks.

Claims 1-5, 7-10 and 14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harper, Jr., *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,375,474 B1, hereinafter "Harper"). Claims 1-5 and 7-15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harper in view of Martin (U.S. Patent No. 3,94,934, hereinafter "Martin") and Lopergolo, *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,800,184, hereinafter "Lopergolo"). Claims 1-5 and 7-15 also have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lopergolo in view of Rathburn (U.S. Patent No. 6,178,629 B1, hereinafter "Rathburn"), Hashiguchi (U.S. Patent No. 5,820,389, hereinafter "Hashiguchi") and Grabbe (U.S. Patent No. 4,969,826, hereinafter "Grabbe 826"). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Claim 1, as currently amended, specifically recites "end sections, wherein the end sections are wave shaped along a vertical direction." None of the disclosures cited teach or suggest a wave shaped end section. For example, in Harper, the end section is "L" shaped or "U" shaped. See, for example, Figure 1 or 7 of Harper. None of the other disclosures either singly or in combination overcome this limitation. For example, see Figure 2 or 4 of Lopergolo, Figure 9 or 10 of Martin, Figure 3 or 9 of Hashiguchi, Figure 2A of Rathburn, or Figure 1 of Grabbe 826.

Further, claim 1, as currently amended, recites "wherein the wave shaped end sections of the plurality of resilient connection pins, viewed from a bottom of the socket or adapter device, are arranged obliquely with an angle of about 45°." None of the disclosures of Harper, Grabbe

826, Rathburn, Lopergolo, Martin, or Hashiguchi either singly or in combination teach or suggest resilient connection pins arranged at an angle of about 45°. Rather, Grabbe 826 discloses that the arms extend at an angle of approximately 30°. For example, in Grabbe 826 see Figure 2A.

Finally, claim 1, as currently amended, specifically recites “wherein the connections are configured by compressing the plurality of resilient connection pins to shorten a pin extension length of the plurality of resilient connection pins.” Neither Bargain nor Martin teaches the shortening of a pin extension length by compressing the plurality of resilient connection pins.

In view of the above discussion, independent claim 1 is allowable. Claims 2-5, 7, 8 and new claim 16 depend from claim 1 and add further limitations. It is respectfully submitted that these dependent claims are allowable by reason of depending from an allowable claim as well as for adding new limitations.

Claim 9, as currently amended, specifically recites “end sections of the resilient connection pins having a wave shape comprising a shape bent back in an upward direction followed by a shape bent down in the downward direction” and “the wave shaped end sections of the resilient connection pins viewed from a bottom of the socket or adapter device being arranged obliquely with an angle of about 45°.” As discussed above none of these limitations are taught by the prior art disclosures taken either singly or in combination. Hence, independent claim 9 is allowable.

Claims 10-14 depend from claim 9 and add further limitations. It is respectfully submitted that these dependent claims are allowable by reason of depending from an allowable claim as well as for adding new limitations.

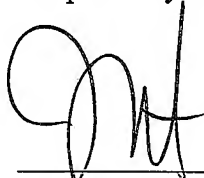
Claim 15, as currently amended, specifically recites “end sections of the connection pins having a bent shape comprising a bend back in an upward direction followed by a bend in a

downward direction” and “the end sections of the connection pins viewed from a bottom of the socket or adapter device being arranged obliquely with an angle of about 45°.” As discussed above none of these limitations are taught by the prior art disclosures taken either singly or in combination. Hence, independent claim 15 is allowable.

Applicant has made a diligent effort to place the claims in condition for allowance. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Ira S. Matsil, Applicant’s attorney, at 972-732-1001, so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible. No fee is believed due in connection with this filing. However, should one be deemed due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge, or credit any overpayment to, Deposit Account No. 50-1065.

11/2/07
Date

Respectfully submitted,



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